project eduaccess

democratising access to higher education

Workshop on the Lady Meherbai D Tata Education Trust Scholarship
Sunday, 9 April 2023

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Project EduAccess

Access to higher education is a privilege most people from marginalised communities are systematically denied through cost, information and dispositional barriers.

Project EduAccess is a modest attempt to improve inclusivity in HEIs by removing these barriers for marginalized communities in South Asia.

We hope to achieve this by providing expert mentorship, support and guidance to learners in South Asia.

Meet your panelist

Bharati Kondepudy

MSc Gender (Research)
London School of Economics and Political Science
Recipient of Lady Meherbai D Tata Education Trust Scholarship 2022-23

Overview and Timeline

- The Lady Meherbai D Tata Education Trust Scholarship is a merit-based, overseas masters scholarship programme for women graduates engaged in social work, public health, and welfare of women and children.

- Each year, up to 10 women benefit from this scholarship.

- A scholarship towards the tuition fee component, approximately between rupees three and six lakhs per selected student, is awarded, depending on the performance of the candidate in the interview.

- The deadline to request for a link to the application form is Thursday, 27 April 2023.

- The deadline to submit the required documents to the Trust office by email is Thursday, 4 May 2023.

- Shortlisted candidates will hear from the Trust office by early/ mid-July 2023. Shortlisted candidates will have to attend either a personal or an online interview with the board of trustees on a designated day in June/ July 2023.

Eligible Fields of Study

The Trust invites applications for the academic year 2023-2024 in the following fields of study:

- Sociology
- Psychology
- Law – Specialising only on matters related to women and children
- Education – Teachers' training programme
- Education and welfare of children with special needs
- Gender studies – Violence against women and children (including domestic violence at home and by others issues concerning Indian women as singles, single mothers and married women)
- Child health – Development and nutrition
- Health policy and health education – Mental health
- Public health – Community health services, reproductive health, epidemiology
- Needs of adolescents
- Communication for development – Focus on issues related to women and children
- Research and study of social norms in communities
- Community Development, Rural Development, Public Policy, Public Administration, Social Policy, Social Development, Sustainable Development – With a focus on women and children's issues
- Social work in areas not covered above, such as women in prison

Eligibility

- Only Indian women graduated from reputed universities are eligible to apply.

- Candidates must demonstrate a consistent and remarkable academic record.

- Only candidates having all their results in hand are eligible to apply. Those awaiting their results are NOT eligible to apply.

- Candidates must have applied for admission or preferably secured admission to reputed universities or institutions in the United States, UK or Europe for the year 2023- 2024 for masters.

- Graduates with relevant work experience of a minimum of 2 years will be preferred.

- Candidates applying/ studying for part-time, short-term, correspondence courses, exchange programmes, and those who have already commenced their studies abroad or are proceeding to countries besides those mentioned above, are NOT eligible to apply.

Application Process - Getting the Application Form

- The first step in the application process is to request for a link to the application form.

- In order to get the link to download the application form, send an email with the following information and supporting documents, to igpedulmdtet@tatatrusts.org:

  - The course and specialisation you wish to pursue and duration
  - Name/s of the university/ies to be attended, in order of merit of your choice, with letter of confirmed admission, if available
  - The course fee required for each university (in tabular format)
  - Proof of funding to support your education (in tabular format)
  - Current profile (biodata, CV, resume)

- Sharing of the link will be at the complete discretion of the Trust office. The link will only be sent if your area of study fits the criteria set out by the Trust.

- Please upload clear, scanned copies of the supporting documents in PDF, word or excel formats only, (no google or any other links) along with your request email. Kindly mark the documents correctly.

Application Process - Filling the Application Form

- The second step in the application process is to fill the application form and submit it to the Trust along with required supporting documents.

- The application form requires you to provide the following information:

  - Personal details
  - Academic information (including details of grades in Classes X and XII, final results of bachelors degree and final results of masters/ other degrees completed, if any)
  - Research work details (provide a brief update on research undertaken or research projects completed along with the date when it was undertaken)
  - Proposed study plan (including details of proposed course of study, universities applied to, status of admission at each university, other scholarships/ fee waivers, and tuition fee and living expenses for one year)
  - Finances (including details of self-funding, funds from family, other scholarships, loans, etc.)
  - Details of last employment (including gross earnings per month), voluntary work and total years of paid work experience
  - Family details (including details of annual income for parents, siblings, spouse)
  - Details of a reference (other than academic/ employer/ family member)

Application Process - Submitting Supporting Documents

Applicants are expected to email the following documents to the Trust along with their application form:

- A brief statement of purpose (about 1000 words or a page)
- CV/ Resume/ Biodata
- Certified copy of the admission letter from the university abroad, if admission is secured or sought; and the fee structure of the university you plan to attend
- Recommendation letters from each of the following on their respective letterheads, giving the full address, telephone and mobile numbers, and official email IDs:
  - The employer on company letterhead where the applicant is currently working; AND
  - An academic reference on the letterhead of the concerned official
- Certified copies of marksheets: SSC, HSC, graduation, post-graduation and any other degree obtained
- Letter of grant, bursary, assistantship, fee waiver, TA or any other concessions received from the university you propose to study at
- Evidence of finances (please disclose proof to show that you have enough funds to cover your course fees and living expenses - brief statement to be submitted)
- Original income certificate or certified copy of the latest income-tax returns of the parents/ guardian, spouse and of the applicant
- Clear copy of the PAN card of the applicant

Interview

- The interview is a general interview, with a focus on the candidate's academic and professional suitability.

- It can be online/ in-person in Mumbai.

- The interview is conducted by a panel of 5-6 members from the scholarship's Board of Trustees.

- The interview questions focus on the following:
  - Tell me about yourself? (a basic describe yourself question)
  - Where and why have you applied to your university + course of choice?
  - How does your course choice align with you current and future professional trajectory?
  - How does your profile (academic and professional) align with the objectives of the scholarship?
  - What do you intend to do after graduating from your degree? (career plans)
  - Have you applied to other sources of funding?
  - Additional questions and queries based on your SoP and CV